



## Weather terms to know

■ **Tropical disturbance:** A moving area of thunderstorms in the tropics that maintains its identity for 24 hours or more.

■ **Tropical depression:** Rotary circulation at the ocean’s surface. Highest constant wind speed is 38 mph (33 knots).

■ **Tropical storm:** Distinct rotary circulation, constant wind speed ranges 39-73 mph (34-63 knots).

■ **Hurricane:** Pronounced rotary circulation, constant wind speed of 74 mph (64 knots).

■ **Small-craft cautionary statements:** When a tropical cyclone threatens a coastal area, small-craft operators are advised to remain in port or not to venture into open sea.

■ **Gale warnings:** May be issued when winds of 39-54 mph (34-47 knots) are expected.

■ **Storm warnings:** May be issued when winds of 55-73 mph (48-63 knots) are expected. If a hurricane is expected to strike a coastal area, gale or storm warnings won’t usually precede hurricane warnings.

■ **Hurricane watch:** Is issued for a coastal area when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24-36 hours.

■ **Hurricane warning:** Is issued when hurricane conditions are expected in a specified coastal area in 24 hours or less. Hurricane conditions include winds of 74 mph (64 knots) and/or dangerously high tides and waves. Actions for protection of life and property should begin immediately when the warning is issued.

■ **Flash flood watch:** A flash flood is possible in the area. Stay alert.

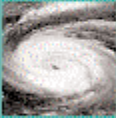
■ **Flash flood warning:** A flash flood is imminent; take immediate action.

■ **Tornadoes:** The extreme weather conditions that create hurricanes can sometimes spawn tornadoes. Although the tornadoes are not as strong as those produced in the midwestern part of the United States, they can produce severe damage and casualties. If a tornado is reported in the area, a warning will be issued.

### Hurcon 4: Alert

#### Hurricane Condition Four (Alert Phase)

Has been declared by the 95th Air Base Wing commander



Destructive winds of 50 knots (58 mph) or greater are possible within 72 hours

Seventy-two hours prior to the forecast arrival of 50-knot sustained winds or greater. Stock up emergency supplies. Copy important papers and phone numbers; store in storm-proof place. Individuals evacuating should decide now where to go.

### Hurcon 3: Preparation

#### Hurricane Condition Three (Preparation Phase)

Has been declared by the 95th Air Base Wing commander



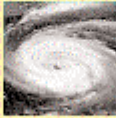
Destructive winds of 50 knots (58 mph) or greater are possible within 48 hours

Forty-eight hours prior to the forecast arrival of 50-knot sustained winds or greater. Monitor storm reports on local radio and television stations. Bring in lawn furniture, trash cans, potted plants and other loose objects. Individuals planning to evacuate should know the route they will take and consider leaving before an evacuation order is issued.

### Hurcon 2: Final preparation

#### Hurricane Condition Two (Final Preparation Phase)

Has been declared by the 95th Air Base Wing commander



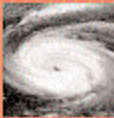
Destructive winds of 50 knots (58 mph) or greater are possible within 24 hours

Twenty-four hours prior to the forecast arrival of 50-knot sustained winds or greater. Listen constantly to storm reports. Board windows and glass doors. Turn refrigerator and freezer to their highest setting; freeze water in jugs. Fill sinks and tubs with water for bathing and sanitary purposes. Residents on high ground away from beaches should consider riding out the storm.

### Hurcon 1: Secure

#### Hurricane Condition One (Secure Phase)

Has been declared by the 95th Air Base Wing commander



Destructive winds of 50 knots (58 mph) or greater are possible within 12 hours

Twelve hours prior to the forecast arrival of 50-knot sustained winds or greater. Remain indoors.